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Facsimile: (858) 731-5001 E-mail: Firm@flblaw.com

FACSIMILE COVER LETTER

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Commissioner for Patents

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From:

Hans R. Mahr

Date:

January 18, 2005

Re:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/388,781

Our Ref.: 450127-02160

Number of Pages:

(Including cover page)

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Dear Sir:

In connection with the Application referenced above, the following documents are submitted herewith:

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PATENT 450127-02160

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)

Masayuki CHATANI et al.

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Filed

September 2, 1999

Examiner

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Hans R. Mahr, Reg. No. 46,138

Name of Applicant, Assignce or Registered Representative

Sienature

Date of Signature: January 18, 2005

REQUEST FOR REFUND

Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

On August 10, 2004, Applicants filed an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) for the references cited by the patent office in Japan in the corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 11-236940 in an Office Action mailed on May 11, 2004. The IDS was mailed on August 10, 2004 with a certificate of mailing pursuant to 37 CFR 1.8 and so should be treated as filed on August 10, 2004. Hence, the IDS was filed within 3 months of the mailing date of the said Japanese Office Action.

PATENT 450127-02160

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c) and 37 CFR 1.97 (e)(1), the said Information Disclosure Statement was filed without any fees. However, on October 22, 2004, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office charged the unknown fees in the amount of \$180.00 to the Deposit Account No. 50-0320. Applicants therefore request the refund of \$180.00.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By:

Reg. No. 46,138 (212) 588-0800